

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 05110 291104Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CPR-01 PA-01 PRS-01  
USIA-06 SY-05 /047 W  
-----291118Z 022419 /10  
P 291143Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2030

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OVIP (THATCHER, MARGARET)  
SUBJECT: VISIT TO US BY MRS. THATCHER

REF: STATE 67753

1. THE EMBASSY IS EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO INFORM MRS. THATCHER THAT THE PRESIDENT IS UNABLE TO AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO RECEIVE HER WHEN SHE VISITS THE UNITED STATES IN SEPTEMBER.
2. MRS. THATCHER IS VERY CONSCIOUS OF HER POSITION AS HEAD OF BRITAIN'S "ALTERNATIVE GOVERNMENT" AND ANXIOUS TO BE SEEN TO BE TREATED AS SUCH BY BRITAIN'S CLOSEST ALLY. IN FACT, WHEN SHE FIRST BROACHED THE IDEA OF MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT, SHE SAID SHE COULD NOT "AFFORD" (POLITICALLY) TO GO TO THE STATES UNLESS SHE KNEW THAT HE WOULD BE WILLING TO RECEIVE HER. FURTHERMORE, DESPITE THE EVENTS OF LAST WEEK IN PARLIAMENT, THERE REMAINS A STRONG POSSIBILITY THAT MRS. THATCHER COULD BECOME PRIME MINISTER BEFORE THE YEAR IS OUT.
3. WE APPRECIATE THAT THE PRESIDENT MAY NOT WISH TO COMMIT HIMSELF TO A SPECIFIC DATE FOR A MEETING THIS FAR IN ADVANCE, BUT A REFUSAL TO AGREE TO A MEETING EVEN IN

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PRINCIPLE MIGHT BE MISCONSTRUED BY MRS. THATCHER AND THUS CAST AN UNNECESSARY SHADOW OVER HER HOPES FOR A CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PRESIDENT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THIS MATTER BE RECONSIDERED AT THE HIQHEST LEVEL AND THAT WE BE AUTHORIZED TO TELL MRS. THATCHER THAT IN PRINCIPLE THE PRESIDENT WOULD OF

COURSE BE PLEASED TO MEET WITH HER WHEN SHE COMES TO THE STATES, THAT HIS CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER IS NOT YET DRAWN UP, AND THAT CLOSER TO THE TIME OF HER TRIP SHE SHOULD SUGGEST SPECIFIC DATES WHEN SHE WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO CALL ON THE PRESIDENT.

SPIERS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LONDON05110  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** VISIT TO US BY MRS. THATCHER  
**TAGS:** OVIP, (THATCHER, MARGARET)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009